
Association News

Providing travel assistance for young WPSA members and students to participate in regional and global WPSA conferences

The Association has funds set aside for a limited number of travel grants. These are to provide international travel assistance for young WPSA members (both scientists and poultry producers) from developing countries and students from developed countries to

attend and participate in regional and global WPSA conferences.

The application conditions and the application form can be downloaded from the website (www.wpsa.com).

WPSA Travel Grant programme for older scientists (>40 yrs) from developing countries

For many years, the WPSA Board has supported a travel grant programme for members 40 years of age and younger, to enable them to attend international WPSA-sponsored meetings in other countries. Application for these grants is open to WPSA members from both developing and developed countries. It is recognised that older scientists from developing countries, even those in relatively senior positions, frequently have considerable difficulty in finding funds to attend international meetings. It is even more difficult for scientists in this age group who have only recently obtained a higher degree. Because of the lack of available training opportunities, many scientists in developing countries are near to 40 by the time they obtain a higher degree and be in a position to present their work at international meetings. The value of interaction with other scientists with similar interests and expertise, is well recognised.

It is for these reasons that WPSA has instituted a new travel grant programme to assist older (>40 years) WPSA members from developing countries to attend and present a paper (oral or poster) at international meetings. The programme is designed to

provide some financial assistance, NOT to cover the entire costs of the travel to and attendance at the meeting in question. As a not-for-profit organisation, WPSA has limited funds to allocate towards the programme, which means that the number of grants and the size of the individual grants, will not be great. Successful applicants are encouraged to use the grant as leverage in application for additional funding from the applicant's institution or other bodies. The programme is competitive and applicants are required to provide information about their research, and current status and about their planned contribution to the meeting in question, as described below and on the application form. Successful applicants will be expected to provide on their return, a brief report on the meeting and on the benefits derived by their attendance.

All applications will be assessed by a travel grants assessment committee set up under the WPSA Board. The committee will make its recommendations to the Secretary, who will advise the applicants in due course. The application conditions and the application form can be downloaded from the website (www.wpsa.com).

WPSA Speakers Bureau Fostering local and regional conferences in the poultry sciences

During the 34th meeting of the Board of WPSA on August 20, 2000 in Montreal, Canada it was recognised that expertise in several areas of poultry science and production in low income countries is often very limited, and WPSA branches in these countries often do not have sufficient financial resources to fund overseas speakers.

To address this problem, the Board created a Speakers' Bureau to assist branches in low income countries to cover the travel costs of expert international speakers. This measure is consistent with the key objective of WPSA to encourage and facilitate liaison among research scientists and educators, and between those in research and education and those working in the many diverse sectors of the poultry industry. Under the Speakers' Bureau scheme, WPSA will pay only the cost of air travel (lowest economy class). All other expenses such as local travel and accommodation are to be paid by the organizing Branch(es). WPSA will not pay any honorarium to speakers.

Given the high cost of international air travel it is important that optimum value be obtained from this expenditure by WPSA. This can be achieved by insisting that the visiting speaker provides more than just one paper at a conference. The visiting speaker could contribute in a variety of ways, e.g., present a second paper on a related topic, conduct a workshop for graduate students, have small group or one-on-one interaction, especially with students, visit industry groups, visit university groups, etc.

Unless the Branch (or group of Branches) can pay all the speakers' costs itself, a speaker should NOT be invited until approval of Speakers' Bureau funds is made by the WPSA Executive Committee. The Branch(es) should not assume that approval will be given until so advised by the WPSA Secretary. Where a Branch or a group of Branches wish to apply for Speakers Bureau assistance, there are certain conditions which must be met:

Application conditions

Application must be made using the WPSA Speakers' Bureau application form.

Application must be submitted at least 2 months prior to the meeting.

The speaker must contribute more to the meeting and/or branch than just presenting one paper.

Following approval, the speaker or the local Branch will be reimbursed by the WPSA Treasurer after the meeting.

A maximum of 2 speakers will be sponsored from the Speakers' Bureau per meeting.

The Branch(es) must be up-to-date with their membership payment.

Full details and application forms can be obtained from the WPSA secretariat (wpsa@xs4all.nl) or you can download the application forms from the WPSA website (www.wpsa.com).

The completed application forms should be sent by e-mail to wpsa@xs4all.nl or by fax to: +31 207 508 941

Foundation for Promoting Poultry Science Stichting Bevordering Plumveewetenschappen

The XIX World's Poultry Congress, held in September 1992 in Amsterdam, was financially successful. This outcome was, to a large extent, due to the contributions received from the 16 main sponsors and over 2500 participants. The terms of reference of the Congress Organizing Foundation required that any credit balance that

resulted after all liabilities had been met should be made available to the Dutch Branch of WPSA as initiator of the organization of the Congress. As a result, a Foundation for Promoting Poultry Science (Stichting Bevordering Plumveewetenschappen) was founded. The general objective of this foundation are "to

promote the developments and propagation of poultry science in WPSA-structures, and specifically:

1. the stimulation of international congresses and the promotion of participation in these events, and
2. the support of initiative having the objective of establishing WPSA-branches in countries which do not yet have them”.

Individuals and organizations may apply for financial support for appropriate WPSA activities such as conferences, congresses and symposia. Applications for financial support of conferences, congresses and symposia should be forwarded through the local WPSA Branch.

The Foundation has a particular interest in assisting in the process of establishing new WPSA branches and therefore supports these

branches by covering for three years part of the membership fees. Individuals and organizations may apply for financial support by contacting Ir H. Hupkes, Odijkerweg 37, NL-3972 NE Driebergen, The Netherlands, e-mail: h.hupkes@zonnet.nl. An application form will be send on request.

The Board of directors of the Foundation meets three or four times a year. In case of requests for financial assistance to attend conferences, congresses and symposia, applications should be received by the secretary at least 3 months before the meeting.

Application forms should be filled out completely and can be send through e-mail and fax. An original application form should be send by regular mail.

It is the Boards policy not to fund individual applicants more than 2 times.

WPSA Website: www.wpsa.com

The WPSA website provides much valuable information about the organisation and activities of the Association, its regional federations and country branches. In addition there are regularly updated news reports from branch meetings, conferences and symposia organised by the specialist Working Groups, as well as a calendar of future events.

In order to keep it regularly updated, the Association welcomes information and pictures from Branches, Regional Federations and Working Groups concerning activities of the various WPSA organisations, as well as news about appointment of officers and members.

Please send your information to Mrs D.M. Kleverwal, e-mail wpsa@xs4all.nl.

World's Poultry Science Journal – Digital Archive

Access from the first issue in 1945 until 2003 online – a total of 240 issues!

Volumes 1 – 59 of World's Poultry Science Journal are now available on Cambridge Journals Online. The archive is fully searchable by keyword and author; abstracts can be saved and e-mailed, full text articles printed and bibliographic details exported into reference management software. Perpetual Access is available for a one-off fee of just £500/\$995*.

For further information, or to purchase the WPSJ Digital Archive, please e-mail jnlsales@cambridge.org.

*For those who do not subscribe to the current volume, there is an additional annual maintenance fee of £45/85, payable from the second year of the deal.

www.journals.cambridge.org/WPS

E-mail WPSA Newsletter

WPSA has introduced a new version of the WPSA Newsletter that will be e-mailed to individual members, on request. To receive

this, please subscribe to the e-mail Newsletter on the website (www.wpsa.com).

Branch Development Proposal

In the Board meeting held during WPC2016 in Beijing, China, the Board decided to increase the funds available for Branch Development by making a formal call for Branch Development Proposals.

The maximum budget for a proposal is US \$2,000.

What can you propose?

Some examples:

- Development of a Branch website and start-up expenses
- Organize activities to revitalize your branch
- Support to communicate with members
- Six months budget for secretarial assistance, stationary etc.

A Branch can receive this award once a year, for a maximum of 3 awards.

In cases where numerous branch projects are being evaluated, preference will be given to first time applicants.

If your proposal is awarded, you have to send in a report on how the money was utilized.

Deadlines

Deadlines for submission are January 1st and July 1st.

How to apply?

Please send your proposal and budget with itemized expenses (in US\$) to Dr Roel Mulder (roel.mulder@wpsa.com).

Incubation Fertility Research Group (IFRG-WPSA Working Group 6), Report meeting 2016 , Brugge, Belgium, 4-6 December 2016

The 2016 meeting of the IFRG-WPSA working group 6 was organized in Brugge, a historical city located in the north-east of Belgium. Despite the timing close to the December festivities, 44 participants joined the conference in Hotel de'Medici located at the Potterei central Brugge. The slow registration process was notable, probably because of the World Poultry Congress Beijing in September. At the end of October only 16 delegates had registered. Nevertheless with a little bit of patience and an interesting programme, not the least because we received many presentations and posters from PhD students and researchers from INRA France, delegate numbers were good eventually.

The programme concentrated on three major topics/themes relevant for fundamental as well as applied fertility and incubation research: (1) nutrition of embryo and hatchling, (2) conservation of endangered species and (3) fertilisation physiology. The first session focused on nutrition of the embryo and hatchling during the first days after hatch. Prof Zehava Uni from Hebrew University opened this session presenting an overview of changing metabolic needs of the developing embryo and orchestrated transport of nutrients

from albumen and yolk and extra-embryonic membranes. Limitations of minerals during critical hatching period might induce a mineral deficiency during the last days of incubation. Prof Uni was sponsored by incubator manufacturers HatchTech, Petersime and Pas Reform.

The second speaker, Dr. Henri Woelders from Wageningen University, focused on the relation between early microbial colonisation of the intestine and gut immunological functions. Later in this session, Mylène Da Silva, Department Reproduction Physiology, INRA Nouzilly, discussed the development and biological functions of amniotic protein profiles as shown by SDS-PAGE electrophoresis. For example, in the second week of incubation amniotic fluid develops proteolytic and antibacterial activities.

The more applied topics related to 'early feeding' were discussed by three speakers. Okan Elibol from Ankara University, sponsored by Aviagen, showed the results of a very detailed study on early feeding of hatched chicks. In this study a clear definition of the moment of access to feed after hatching was used: chicks that had wet down were recorded as 'just hatched'. It was concluded

that post hatch holding for up to 40 h after hatching had no major detrimental effects on final live performance.

Dr. Hilke Willemsen, Aviagen UK, and Dr. Inge Reijrink, HatchTech, both compared the vitality ('quality') of chicks hatched in an environment where feed and water are available immediately after hatching. Dr. Inge Reijrink clearly showed that chicks from the traditional hatchery showed more signs of dehydration compared to those from the HatchCare system. Dr. Hilke Willemsen focused on the behaviour of chicks hatched in the broiler house. A higher percentage of chicks hatched in the broiler house were resting compared to chicks hatched in a traditional hatchery. The behaviour differences disappeared after day six. The last speaker of this session Seline Schallier, University of Leuven, discussed transgenerational effects of protein undernutrition of breeders on egg weights. Low protein feed in parent generations reduced egg weights in the F2 generation, even if F2 hens were fed a standard control diet. For the second session entitled 'Preservation of endangered species' two speakers were invited. Dr. Elisabeth Blesbois, Reproductive Physiology and Behaviours, INRA Tours, showed promising progresses in cryopreservation techniques of primordial germ cells and semen. For the latter new methods of semen phenotyping have been developed such that the resistance to cryopreservation of semen can be predicted. Dr. Patricia Brekke, Institute of Zoology, London presented data on hatching failure in the endangered New Zealand bird called the hihi (*Notiomystis cincta*). Hatching failure is higher in threatened birds compared to other bird populations. The hihi is shown to be a good example: low levels of fertility and higher embryonic mortality were shown in the threatened small hihi population. The third session 'Sperm, fertilization and embryo physiology', was reserved for oral and poster presentations by researchers and PhD students

from INRA Tours, Nouzilly. The results of research presented in this session showed the power of large groups of scientists collaborating in multi-disciplinary research projects. Sarah-Anne David showed how cyclic increases of incubation temperature and relative humidity from E7 to E16 increased the thermotolerance of chickens. The cyclic changes in the incubation environment were associated with altered metabolic activity and expression of genes up to slaughter age. In the context of this presentation a poster was presented showing adaptive capacities of broiler chickens after incubation climate changes.

Dr. Nadine Gérard, INRA Tours, Nouzilly presented a detailed overview of the relationship between fertility and uterine fluid composition in sperm storage tubuli. Related to this theme a total of five posters by PhD students were presented. Electron microscopical techniques, immunocytochemical methods, biostatistics and molecular functional analysis were used to reveal uterine proteins involved in sperm survival in the hen oviduct.

The final two oral presentations sponsored by Aviagen. Firstly Tolga Erkus showed the positive effects of egg storage at 15°C and one SPIDES treatment at five days after storage. Finally Dr. Dinah Nicholson closed the session by reviewing the history of poultry breeding and artificial incubation. For the future Dr. Nicholson sees a formaline-free hatchery with hatching practice on the farm.

Two more interesting posters were received respectively: (1) a detailed description of embryonic development of domestic guinea fowl was presented (M. Marzoni, university of Pisa) and from the poster presented by Marine Dewez (Hybrid Turkeys) we learned that the CT scan is a good tool to predict body composition in reproductive hens.

Marleen Boerjan, president IFRG

Branch News

Croatia

The Croatian Branch held its annual meeting in December 2016, with the majority of talks related to upcoming organisation of the XV European Poultry Conference 2018 and Poultry Days 2017, the Croatian biannual symposium with international participation which will be held under the auspices of WPSA – Croatian Branch, in Sibenik, Croatia, on May 10-13, 2017. Poultry Days is a Croatian specialised symposium which attracts around 200 participants – scientists, poultry producers, and veterinarians from Croatia but also from other European countries. Scientific and professional experts will cover, via oral and poster presentations, a wide variety of actual topics including poultry diseases, nutrition and production.

The Croatian local organizing committee of XV EPC 2018 is fully engaged in the organisation and have held numerous meetings during the year. Contacts have been made with potential sponsors and participants. The sponsors of EPC 2018 will have the opportunity to promote their company to a wide range of decision makers and other stakeholders within the poultry industry, as well as to leading poultry scientists. If you are interested to participate or to sponsor EPC 2018, please visit www.epc2018.com or contact us at horvatek@vef.hr.

Egypt

The 9th International Poultry Conference of the Egyptian Poultry Science Association, 7-10 November, 2016, Hurghada, Red Sea, Egypt

The Egyptian Poultry Science Association has provided a scientific platform, in collaboration with the World Poultry Science Association - Egypt branch, to present more than 90 papers regarding the poultry industry. More than 150 scientists and researchers from Egyptian universities, research centres and other parts of the world confirmed the need to rely on local poultry breeds, and highlighted the need for improvements in these breeds and the development of welfare and feeding systems. Prof.Dr. Mohamed Abdel Moneim Kosba, the

Chairman of the conference, said that the most important recommendation was the need to increase the budget for scientific research in the field of poultry production to develop meat and egg production. This conference is held every two years and it is expected to next take place in November, 2018 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. This conference is organised by the Egyptian Poultry Science Association, based in the Faculty of Agriculture, Alexandria University, which is the oldest specialised scientific association for poultry science in the Middle East and North Africa.

Germany

The German Branch continues to grow with 415 members at the end of 2016, of which more than 10% (43) are students. The German Branch will hold its next annual meeting from 7-8 March 2017 in Hannover and we are looking forward to an interesting programme. Further information will soon be available on our website www.wpsa.de.

Japan

The JPSA Spring Meeting, 2017 will be held at Kobe University in late March. The meeting consist of original paper presentations, a seminar as well as council and general meetings. The council meeting will be held on March 29, and the paper presentation as well as the general meeting will be on March 30. A seminar will be held during the meeting by the cooperation of the young scientist council members of Japan Animal Science Association and JPSA. The details of the seminar will be announced soon. Since JPSA would like to create opportunities for future scientists, a poster session will be opened during the spring meeting for high school students who are interested in the area of avian research. The deadline of abstract submission is January 29 for the paper and the poster sessions. Please browse the JPSA website (<http://jpn-psa.jp/>) for the details. JPSA welcomes abstract submission not only from Japan but also from all over the world.

Naoki Goto, Secretary of WPSA Japan Branch

Russia

The VNITIP Federal Scientific Centre of the Russian Science Academy in Serguiev Posad, Moscow Region, recognises the importance of science communication with the industry, and has a program to encourage this topic. This famous Institute had celebrated 85 years since the foundation day last year. VNITIP scientists and experts are serving science and poultry industry branch devotedly during all these years. Prof. V.I. Fisinin has lead the Institute for more than 45 years. The Institute in Serguiev Posad has become a centre for experts during this period. Training courses are conducted at the Institute for poultry processors, feed mill and farm managers, veterinarians and zootechnicians, mechanical engineers and economists. Every year more than 1000 experts from Russia and abroad attend lectures from leading scientists in poultry industry sphere, exchange experiences and discuss innovations from local and foreign poultry science work in Ptitsegrad.

Choose a seminar, and we shall be glad to greet you at the courses in Serguiev Posad.

The next seminars for 2017 are:

No.	The seminar theme	Date
1.	Problems and decision making in modern egg incubation (for zootechnicians, veterinarians, leaders and mechanics of incubation shops)	February 27–March 4 November 20–25
2.	New technologies and ways to effectively rear broilers for meat production and processing (for technologists and experts in poultry meat production and processing)	March 20–25
3.	Modern technologies in feed production, productive poultry cross feeding, control of feed and premix and biological active additive safety and quality (for poultry farm and feed mill technologists, veterinarians, zoo- and vet-laboratory leaders, feed zootechnicians, professors)	May 15–20 December 4–9
4.	International Poultry Expert Forum ‘Innovations in production as the basis of poultry industry enterprises and economic effectiveness’ (for poultry industry enterprise leaders and experts)	June 5–10
5.	International Poultry Expert Forum ‘Economic aspects of poultry industry enterprise; functional effectiveness’ (for financial and economic service leaders and experts, technologists)	September 18–23
7.	Progressive and resource-conserving technologies in egg production and processing (for poultry enterprise leaders, technologists, zootechnicians, veterinarians, engineers and managers, academics)	October 16–21
6.	Selection and reproduction of high productive poultry crosses (for breeding farm managers and experts)	November 13–18

Additional information can be found at the website: www.vnitip.ru.

Tatiana Vasilieva

South Africa

The South African branch of the WPSA had a good 2016, with the reintroduction of a Youth Programme for six students which culminated in attendance at our annual Scientific Day. This year saw the highest ever attendance at the day, with a programme including local and international speakers. The theme of the day was 'Understanding and Facing Industry Challenges'.

The South African Poultry Industry has had a tough year, with enterprises having to shut down, but we are committed to planning a good programme for 2017, with relevant speakers. We have started the Barnard-Gous scholarship for a student to complete a poultry science based postgraduate degree, and aim to attract top students into our industry.

Best wishes for 2017 from the South African branch.

Nicola Tyler, Branch Secretary

United Kingdom

As the year draws to a close it is an opportunity to reflect on another successful year for our Branch. Membership of the Branch remains steady at between 240 and 250 members. The WPSA UK Annual meeting was again held at the University of Chester, where about 80 delegates attended and listened to a varied programme of over 25 papers, many offered by young, enthusiastic researchers. Plans are already well advanced for 2017 with a return to Chester, possibly for the last time. Calls for abstracts have now closed and we look forward to an interesting and entertaining Meeting in April 2017. 2017 will also see our next Poultry Science Symposium to be held from the 3-5 July 2017 in Cambridge. The topic will be 'Poultry Feathers & Skin—the past, present and future of the poultry integument'. More details of the symposium are available on the WPSA UK website. Abstract submission for the symposium is now open and the deadline for submission is 28th February 2017.

Those of you that attended WPC in Beijing will know that one of our long-term members (and past president) Dr Paul Hocking was inducted into the International Poultry hall of Fame. Hot on the heels of this WPSA UK is pleased to congratulate another of our members, Dr Steven Pace, who last month was honoured with the accolade of Young Poultry Person of the Year, awarded during

the banquet at the Egg and Poultry Industry Conference at Celtic Manor in November.

Our annual spring meeting will be held for the last time in Chester. The dates are 26-27 April 2017. The joint session with BSAS will explore views of animal science activities from the outside looking inwards: Dr Nick Rousseau, Managing Director of the Woven Network will discuss public perception over the use of insects as feed and food, and Professor David Hughes, Emeritus Professor of Food Marketing at Imperial College London on engaging the end consumer. The WPSA Industry session will feature an introduction to current technologies in gene editing from Dr Mike McGrew, Research Group Leader at the Roslin Institute, progressing to recent advances in gene editing for poultry and a bit of blue sky thinking and discussion about how it could potentially be used in the industry. Our second speaker will cover the topical issue of alternative protein sources – sharing a commercial viewpoint encompassing product quality, availability, supply chain volatility and a host of other factors influencing the decision over whether or not to invest in a raw material.

The 2017 Gordon Memorial Lecture will focus on laying hens this year, with a talk from Professor Rudi Preisinger, of Lohmann Tierzucht GmbH, covering the interface between industry and research. The Gordon Memorial Lecture is a tribute both to the monumental work of Robert Fraser Gordon during his life, and also to the extraordinary achievements of poultry scientists who have followed him. The WPSA UK branch is proud to host this annual event, and our website gives more details on the Gordon Memorial Trust and the annual Award recipients.

As in 2016, there will be ten scholarships available to registered students to facilitate their attendance at the meeting. Each WPSA UK Branch Spring Meeting Scholarship will be worth £150 and is sponsored by the branch. The scholarship is intended for payment or part payment of registration fees and accommodation and will be awarded on a competition basis at the discretion of the branch Council and although all students are encouraged to apply, preference may be given to UK undergraduates. Applications will close on January 31st 2017. More details are available on the branch website.

Poultry Feathers & Skin – the past present and future of poultry integument

WPSA UK is pleased to announce the 32nd Poultry Science Symposium that is scheduled to be held in the historic and scenic city of Cambridge in July 3 to 5, 2017. The theme of the symposium is 'Poultry feathers and skin – the past, present and future of poultry integument'. The programme committee is working to ensure that this informative symposium is of wide appeal to all in the poultry industry.

Abstract submission for the symposium is now open with the deadline for submission closing on 28/02/2017. There is a link for abstract submission on the symposium website where readers can also preview the invited topics and speakers (<http://wpsa-uk.com/meeting/32-poultry-science-symposium>).

Sponsorship opportunities are now available for the Symposium and all sponsorship goes directly to supporting the costs of the

meeting. Lots of exciting possibilities exist from sponsoring coffee breaks or individual sessions.

Please contact Nell at helen.maseyoneill@abagri.com for more information.

USA

The USA Branch would like to announce the beginning of new four year terms for our new USA Branch Board members. The new Board members include Dr. Petek Settar (Hy-Line International), Dr. Tony Pescatore (University of Kentucky) and Dr. Sami Dridi (University of Arkansas). Drs. Settar and Pescatore will also serve on the Poultry Science Association Foundation Board. We express our sincere appreciation to outgoing Board members Dr. Curtis Novak, Dr. Ernie Pierson and Dr. Bob Buresh. Dr. Buresh will continue to serve as the USA Branch Secretary and is now a member of the WPSA Board.